

Message Text

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42

ACTION NEA-07

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 NEAE-00 SSO-00 NSC-05 NSCE-00

PM-03 DODE-00 INR-05 INRE-00 CIAE-00 PRS-01 H-01

TRSE-00 OMB-01 /038 W
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FM AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 981

C O N F I D E N T I A L TEL AVIV 2510

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, IS, US

SUBJECT: LIKUD REQUEST FOR KNESSET SESSION

REF: STATE 84474

1. AT REQUEST OF THE LIKUD, THE KNESSET WILL CONVENE IN EXTRA-ORDINARY SESSION ON APRIL 12 AT 1000 HOURS FOR A DEBATE ON AN URGENT MOTION ENTITLED "PRESSING POLITICAL AND DEFENSE PROBLEMS, INCLUDING THE SITUATION IN THE LEBANON AND ISRAEL-U.S. RELATIONS."

2. THE SPOKESMAN FOR THE HERUT (LIKUD) PARTY HAS CONFIRMED TO US THAT THE LIKUD IS NOT REPEAT NOT INTRODUCING A NO-CONFIDENCE MOTION WHICH, IN ANY CASE, IS NOT PERMITTED UNDER PARLIAMENTARY RULES IN THE RECESS (PASSOVER) PERIOD. THE DEBATE WILL CONSIST OF A STATEMENT BY LIKUD FOLLOWED BY A GOVERNMENT REPLY, PROBABLY FROM RABIN OR ALLON. LIKUD LEADER BEGIN IS PRESENTLY IN THE UNITED STATES AND WILL NOT BE BACK IN TIME FOR THE DEBATE. THE HERUT SPOKESMAN BELIEVES THAT MK YIGAL HOROWITZ WILL MAKE THE PRESENTATION FOR THE LIKUD. AFTER A BRIEF DEBATE, THE LIKUD MOTION WILL LIKELY BE REFERRED TO THE FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND DEFENSE COMMITTEE.

3. ACCORDING TO PRESS REPORTS, THE LIKUD WILL PROPOSE THAT
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ISRAEL WITHDRAW ITS REQUEST FOR \$550 MILLION INTERIM

ASSISTANCE. THE PRESS ALSO NOTES THAT THE PRESIDENT OF THE MANUFACTURERS' ASSOCIATION, ABRAHAM SHAVIT, AS WELL AS MEMBERS OF THE AHDUT AVODAH FACTION OF THE LABOR PARTY HAVE ALREADY COME OUT IN FAVOR OF ISRAEL WITHDRAWING ITS REQUEST FOR SUPPLEMENTAL AID.

4. THE CONTINUATION OF THE RABIN GOVERNMENT IS IN NO WAY AN ISSUE IN THE APRIL 12 DEBATE. A MORE SERIOUS CHALLENGE TO RABIN, HOWEVER, MAY ARISE IN THE CABINET DELIBERATION OVER THE QADOUM PROBLEM WHICH IS EXPECTED TO TAKE PLACE AT THE END OF THIS MONTH.

TOON

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptoning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: POLITICAL SITUATION, POLITICAL PARTIES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 08 APR 1976
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: buchant0
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976TELAV02510
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760133-0344
From: TEL AVIV
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760481/aaaacrau.tel
Line Count: 73
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: LIMDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: LIMDIS
Reference: 76 STATE 84474
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: buchant0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 22 JUL 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <22 JUL 2004 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <07 OCT 2004 by buchant0>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: LIKUD REQUEST FOR KNESSET SESSION
TAGS: PFOR, IS, US
To: n/a
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006